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Price list of occupational and  
society emblems shaving  
mugs

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**PRICE LIST  
OF OCCUPATIONAL AND  
SOCIETY EMBLEMS  
SHAVING MUGS**

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W. PORTER WARE



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(1) *Drum Major who belongs also to three societies;*

(2) *Early electric taxi.*

## PREFACE

*For some time there has been a clamor among antiques dealers and collectors for a guide by which they could gauge the proper price a collector should pay for each of several hundred designs of occupational and society emblem shaving mugs, and instructions that would help determine the value of one-of-a-kind occupational mugs. Some of my friends asked me to undertake the job which I present to you now with my compliments (provided you have sent in your check for the book).* KANSAS CITY (MO.) PUBLIC LIB

*In preparing this material, I have attempted to lay before you vital facts without resorting to the common practice of "padding". I have left my grandparents out of it. I have written "without fear or favor", as the newspapers say. Striving to please everybody, which usually ends in pleasing nobody, I have made a compromise between the price we collectors like to pay and the price the dealers hope to see. I wish to make it clear that I have no axe to grind. If prices of old shaving mugs rise, I stand to profit because of the hundreds of them making up my private collection. It is like owning*

*a piece of property. On the other hand, if prices go down, or remain stable, I stand to profit in the event I buy more mugs. This little puzzle I place squarely in your lap so that nobody can say the book has made me rich or poor overnight. Frankly, I don't know just where it leaves me. But I have an idea that something took a bite out of my trousers somewhere along the line.*

W. PORTER WARE.

Sewanee, Tennessee,  
Winter of 1948-49.

## CODE AND EXPLANATION OF PRICE LIST

There are some five hundred occupational and society emblem shaving mugs in the alphabetical list that follows. Please consult the chart or code below to determine the value of any given mug:

A—\$ 3.50 to \$ 5.00.

B—\$ 5.50 to \$ 7.50.

C—\$ 8.00 to \$10.00.

D—\$11.00 to \$13.00.

E—\$14.00 to \$16.00.

F—\$17.50 to \$20.00.

G—\$21.00 to \$25.00.

H—Make Own Price (above \$25.00).

This device allows for a certain elasticity since decorated shaving mugs vary quite a bit in execution of design, coloring, etc.

## OLD SHAVING MUGS

My list of old shaving mugs is a composite one framed by the use of lists in about one hundred old barber supply company catalogues between the years 1878 and the 1920's. Among the barber supply companies represented are Theo. A. Kochs, Alfred J. Krank, Kraut & Dohnal, Ross W. Black, Boston Barber Supply, and J. J. Lang & Company. The Kochs catalogues are practically a complete collection from 1878 to the 1930's although the last years have dropped any lists of shaving mugs.

I have endeavored to stick to the exact wording in the original lists of the catalogues. Wherever you see "fine", "very fine", etc. after a description, that is the way it was given long ago. It is true I made exception on occasion for the sake of clarity. For example, the original wording of one design was "Hat and Cap" meaning that the decoration would be either a hat or a cap, as specified. I changed it to "Hat or Cap" to avoid confusion.

The use of the term "Semi-Occupational" is employed a few times to denote cases where the design was considered occupational by some decorating companies while others saw fit to place the same design in a list of decorated shaving mugs apart from the occupational list. In other words, such mugs are questionable.

I have compiled for your benefit a separate list of non-occupational shaving mugs of the deceiving variety. All guess-work was avoided by careful research in the old catalogues.

The prices for mugs in this book are determined not by rarity alone but from a standpoint of scarcity plus demand, with the added factor of collector interest or trends of the day. As a general rule, society emblems are not in the same class as occupations in determining the value of a mug. Thus, a rare emblem mug may bring a price equal only to that of a semi-rare occupational.

Following the long alphabetical list, you will find some more information of a general nature regarding the occupational mug. Those of you who may develop an interest for other barber shop shaving mugs, or for shaving mugs used in the old home, should consult as a companion piece of work my article appearing in latest editions of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, there being four pages devoted to this subject, including beautiful color illustrations.



# LIST OF OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIETY EMBLEM SHAVING MUGS AND THEIR PRESENT DAY VALUES.

Consult Chart For Guide.

A. A. of I. & S. W. Emblem.....	B
Accordion .....	E
American Legion of Honor.....	B
Anchor .....	B
Ancient Order of United Workmen.....	B
Anvil and Hammer.....	C
Anvil, Hammer and Tongs.....	C
A. O. H. (Hibernian).....	B
A. P. A. Emblem.....	B
Architect's Emblem, Plain.....	C
Arc Light .....	E
Automobile .....	D-E-F

(Varies greatly. Early models  
more in demand.)

Baggage Master, Truck & Car.....	F
Baker (one) at Work.....	E
Bakers at Work.....	D
Baker's Emblem, Two Lions and Pretzel...	E
Baker Wagon, Horse and Driver.....	C
Band Instruments (several). Semi-Occup...	B
Barber Shop .....	D
Except design showing chair(s) with separate footrest .....	E
Barber's Tools (Razor & Shears).....	D
Barnyard Scene with Fox and Geese.	
Semi-Occupational .....	B
Barque .....	C



Bartender (See Saloon).	
Base Ball Player.....	E
Except Batter .....	D
Base Ball and Bats.....	D
Base Fiddle .....	D
Basket Maker at Work.....	G
Basket of Peaches.....	D
Bear .....	E
Beer Barrel, Bottle and Glasses.....	F
(See also Keg, etc.)	
Beer Bottle and Glasses.....	E
Beer Brewer's Emblem.....	C
Beer Glass (Beer Mug).....	D
Beer Wagon, Horses and Driver.....	D
Ben Hur (T. B. H.).....	A
Bicycle .....	E
Except Highwheeler, Safety and other early models .....	G
Bicycle and Rider.....	D
Except early model.....	G
Billiard Players at Table.....	E
Billiard Table, Balls and Cues.....	E
Bill Poster, Posting Bills.....	F
*Bird, any kind.....	B
Except any bird in cage.....	F
Except see Peacock	
Blacksmith at Anvil.....	D
Blacksmith Shoeing Horse.....	D
(See also Horse Shoe, etc.)	
B. of L. E. (Engineer's Monogram).....	B
B. of L. F. (Firemen's Monogram).....	B
B. of L. F. & E.....	B
B. of R. R. T. (Trainmen).....	B
Boiler Maker at Work.....	F
Book for Stationery.....	E

\*Song-birds, birds not connected with Sports, etc.  
considered non-occupational.

Book in Hand.....	E
Bookbinder at Work.....	G
Bookkeeper at Desk.....	D
Boot and Shoe.....	C
Boot and Shoe, fine.....	D
B. P. O. E. (Order of Elks).....	B
Bottle Blower at Work.....	H
Bowling Alley.....	H
Brass Horn or Cornet (either).....	C
Bricklayer's Emblem, Trowel and Square..	B
Bricklayer(s) at Work.....	C
Bridge Span (Steel).....	E
Brush Maker's Emblem.....	D
Brush Maker's Store.....	F
Buggy (without horse).....	E
Buggy, Horse and Driver.....	D
Buggy, Two Horses and Driver.....	D
Buggy Trimmer's Emblem.....	E
Bull .....	D
Bull's Head and Tools.....	C
Bunch of Grapes.....	B
Butcher's Design, Steer's Head (long-horn), Knife and Steel (below), very fine.....	D
Butcher's Design, Bull's Head.....	C
Butcher Dressing a Steer.....	E
Butcher's Emblem (Knife, Saw, Cleaver and Steel) .....	B
Butcher Chopping Meat.....	D
Butcher Dressing a Hog.....	F
Butcher Slaughtering a Steer.....	E
Butcher Standing by Steer.....	F
Butcher Store .....	D
(See also Hog, etc.)	

Caboose .....	C-D
Calf .....	B
Calipers and Hammer (Machinist's Emblem)	B
Caliper in Hand.....	C
Camera .....	E
Camera with Stand.....	E
(See also Photographer, etc.)	
Cannon and Gun Carriage.....	G
Card in Hand. Semi-Occupational.....	B
Cards (Hand Holding Playing Cards).....	H
Carpenter at Work.....	C
(Also known as Cabinet Maker at Work.)	
Carpenter's Emblem (Saw, Plane, Square) ..	B
Carpenter's Emblem (Saw, Plane, Hatchet)	C
Carriage (without horse).....	E
Carriage, Horses and Driver.....	D
Catholic M. B. Association Emblem.....	B
Chair Maker at Work.....	F
Chicken .....	B
China Dealer's Emblem.....	F
China Dealer's Store.....	F
Cigar .....	C
Cigar Box.....	E
Cigar Bunch.....	D
Cigar Store.....	E
Clarinet .....	C
Clerk at Desk.....	D
Clock .....	E
Clothing Dealer and Customer.....	F
Clothing Store.....	F
Coach and Horses.....	F
Coal Cart (without horse).....	D
Coal Cart, Horse and Driver.....	C
Coal Miner at Work (in Mine).....	E
(See also Miner, etc.)	

Coal Wagon, Horse and Driver.....	C
Coat of Arms of Any State.....	D
Except See Pennsylvania	
Coat of Arms.	
Cobbler (See Shoemaker).	
Coffin or Casket.....	H
Commission Merchant, Three Barrels, Pork,	
Whiskey and Flour.....	D
Compass, Square and Three Links.....	B
Conductor's Punch.....	C
Except see O. R. C.	
Confectioner's Pyramid.....	F
Confectioner's Store.....	G
Confederate Flag.....	D
Cooper Making Barrel.....	E
Cotton Field With Darkey Picking Cotton..	H
Cow .....	B
Cowboy, Horseman Lassoing Cattle.....	F
Cylinder Printing Press (large).....	D
Cylinder Printing Press (small).....	D
Danish Brotherhood Emblem.....	B
Deer, Running and Scenery.....	A
Deer's Head.....	A
Dentist Drawing Teeth.....	G
Dentist's Emblem (Set of Teeth).....	G
Doctor Attending Patient.....	H
Dog (any breed).....	B-C
Dog and Safe, fine.....	E
Donkey .....	C
Dray .....	D
Dray, Two Horses and Driver.....	C
Drove of Cattle.....	D
Druggist's Mortar and Pestle, Plain.....	C
Druggist's Mortar and Pestle, Fine.....	D
Druggist Pulverizing in Mortar.....	F
Drug Store .....	F

Drug Store with Soda Fountain.....	F
Druid Emblem.....	B
Drum, Bass or Tenor.....	D
Dry Goods Emblem.....	C
Dry Goods Store, Clerk and Customer.....	C
Dynamo. ....	C
Eagle .....	B
Eagle, Shield and Flags.....	B
Eagle, with Two Flags.....	C
Eagle, with spread Wings Above and Flowers Below Name.....	B
Electric Crane.....	F
Electric Street Car.....	D-E
(See also Street Car, Horses, Driver and Conductor).	
Engine, Stationary .....	C
Epworth League Emblem.....	B
Express Wagon .....	D
Express Wagon, Horse and Driver.....	C
Express Wagon, Two Horses and Driver...	C
Farmer Plowing with Two Horses.....	D
(See also Plow).	
Fire Engine (Steam). Type A.....	G
Fire Engine (Steam), with Two Horses. Type B.....	G
Fireman's Hat .....	D
Firemen's Emblem .....	E
See also Hook and Ladder, etc.	
Fish .....	C
Fish Stand and Salesman.....	F

Fisherman and Scenery (shows stream and standing fisherman). Semi-Occupational..	C
Fishing Tackle .....	D
Flag of Any Nation,.....	C
Except see Confederate Flag, United States Flag, German Flag.	
Flags, Two of Any Nation (crossed).....	C
Except see U. S. Flags (crossed).	
Flag, Sword and Cannon.....	E
Flint Glass Blower at Work.....	H
Flint Glass Gaffer.....	H
Flint Glass Presser at Work.....	H
Flour and Feed Emblem.....	C
Flour and Feed Store.....	D
Flute .....	C
F. O. E. (Order of Eagles).....	A
Foresters Emblem (Independent Order)....	B
Foresters (F. O. A.) with Flags.....	B
Foresters (Catholic) .....	B
Freight Car .....	C
Freight Propeller.....	F
Fruit Stand.....	D
Furniture Emblem (Sofa and Chairs).....	E
Furniture Store, interior.....	F
Gambrinus, Glass in Hand.....	F
Also called "Gambrinus and Keg".	
Gas Engine .....	D
Gas Fitter's Emblem.....	D
German Flag .....	B
Grain Elevator .....	G
Grand Army Republic Emblem.....	B
Grocery Store and Clerk.....	C

Grocery Wagon, with One Horse.....	C
Grocery Wagon and Horses.....	D
Guitar .....	C
Gunning Skiff .....	F
Gunsmith and Customer.....	F
Gun Store .....	F
Hand Car .....	D
Hand and Pen.....	D
Hand Printing Press.....	E
Hands Clapsed .....	B
Hardware Store .....	D
Hare or Rabbit.....	A
Harness Maker at Work.....	D
Harp .....	D
Harp and Shamrock.....	C
Harugari .....	C
Hat in Hand.....	E
Hat or Cap.....	E
Hatchet ....	C
Hatter at Work.....	F
Hearse, Horses and Driver.....	H
Heptasoph's Emblem.....	D
Hod .....	A
Hod Carrier Carrying Brick.....	C
Hoe .....	B
Hog .....	B
Hog's Head, Knife and Steel.....	D
(See also Butcher, etc.)	
Hook and Ladder, Truck Only.....	F

Hook and Ladder, Truck and Horses.....	E
(See also Fireman, etc.)	
Horse .....	C
Horse, fine .....	C
Horse's Head .....	B-C
(With or without shoe around head).	
Horse's Head, fine.....	C-D
(With or without shoe around head).	
Horse Racer in Sulky.....	E
Horse Racer on Horseback.....	F
Horseshoe. Semi-Occupational .....	A
Horse Trainer at Work.. .....	F
Hose Carriage, One Horse.....	G
Hose Carriage, Horses and Driver.....	G
Hose Cart .....	E-F
Hostler Holding a Horse.....	E
Hotel Register .....	D
Hunter, Dog and Game.....	C
Hunter with Two Dogs.....	C
Hunter Shooting Ducks.....	E
Except see Non-Occupational type in list at rear.	
Hunter Under a Tree.....	C
Huntsman and Dog.....	C
Hunting Dog Chasing a Hare.....	B
Hydrant and Hose.....	F
Hydrant and Tools.....	F
I. B. E. W. (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers).....	
Ice Wagon, (One) Horse and Driver.....	D



Ice Wagon, Horses and Driver.....	C
Incandescent Electric Lamp.....	D
Indian Smoking Pipe.....	C
I. O. O. F. (Eye and Three Links).....	B
I. O. O. F. (Three Links Only).....	A
I. O. O. F. Encampment .....	B
I. O. G. T. (Templars) .....	B
I. O. R. M. (Indian Head).....	C
I. O. R. M. (Redmen's Encampment).....	B
Irish Flag .....	C
Irish Flag with Shamrock.....	B
Iron Moulders of N. A.....	C
Iron Moulder at Work.....	F
Iron Puddler at Work.....	F
Iron Safe .....	F
 Jeweler's Design .....	 D
Jeweler's Store .....	E
Jockey Emblem (Cap and Whip).....	F
(See also Horse, etc.)	
Jr. O. U. A. M. (American Mechanics).....	A
Jr. O. U. A. M. with Flags.....	C
Jug .....	D
Justice of the Peace Emblem (large scales)	H

Keg of Beer.....	E
(See also Beer, etc.)	
Key with Ribbons.....	F
Knights of Columbus.....	B
Knights of Golden Eagle Emblem.....	B
Knights of Honor Emblem.....	B
Knights and Ladies of Honor Emblem.....	B
Knights of Labor Emblem.....	B
Knights of Macabee.....	B
Knights of Malta.....	B
Knights of Pythias, plain emblem.....	A
Knights of Pythias Emblem.....	B
Knights of Pythias, Uniform Rank.....	C
Knights of St. George.....	C
Knights of St. John.....	C
Knights Templar Mounted.....	F
Knights Templars (Cross and Crown).....	B
Knights Templars (Double Eagle).....	B

Lager Beer Wagon, Horses and Driver.....	D
Lantern .....	D
League of American Wheelmen Emblem...	C
Ledger .....	D
Leopard .....	E
Letter Carrier in Uniform.....	F
Lion .....	D
Liquor Dealer Testing Wine.....	G
Livery Stable .....	G
Loaf of Bread.....	D
Locomotive and Tender.....	C-D-E-F
(Great variation includes recent locomotives, woodburners, "Camel-backs", etc.)	
Locomotive and Cars.....	E
L. O. O. M. (Loyal Order of Moose).....	B
Lumberman's Rule .....	D
Lumber Yard .....	F
Lyre .....	C
Machinist at Lathe.....	D
Machinist Calipers .....	B
Mail Pouch .....	F
Mail Wagon, Horse and Driver.....	D
Maltese Cross (Masonic).....	B
Malt Shovel .....	C
Man Carrying Keg of Beer.....	F
Man on Horseback.....	F
Man Shearing Sheep.....	E
Mantle, Grate and Front.....	E
Marble Cutter at Work.....	E
Masonic Square and Compass Emblem.....	B
Mattress Maker at Work.....	G

Mechanic's Emblem, Hand and Hammer...	C
Milk Can .....	E
Milk Wagon, Horse and Driver.....	C
Mill Stone .....	E
Miller Dressing Burr.....	E
Miller's Roller .....	D
Miller Sharpening Mill Stone.....	F
Miner's Emblem (Two Picks Crossed).....	C
(See also Coal Miner, etc.)	
Miner's Hat, Pick, Lamp and Shovel.....	D
Miner's Hat, with Lamp on it.....	D
Miner with Pick and Shovel.....	E
Miner with Pick on Shoulder.....	E
Modern Brotherhood of America.....	B
Mule .....	C
Musician, with Any Instrument.....	F
Except see Piano player and Violin Player.	
Mystic Chain .....	B
Mystic Shrine.....	C
Nailer, Cutting Nails.....	F
Notion Dealer's Store.....	E
Ocean Steamer .....	F
Oil Dealer and Oil Barrel.....	G
Oil Derrick .....	F
Oil Derrick with Scenery.....	F
Omnibus, Horses and Driver.....	G
One Hand .....	C
O. O. O. (Order of Owls).....	A
Orangemen's Emblem .....	D
O. R. C. (Conductors).....	B
Except see Conductor's Punch.	

O. R. T. (Telegraphers).....	B
Except see Telegraph Key, etc.	
Order of Chosen Friends Emblem.....	B
Order of Iron Hall Emblem.....	C
Order of Tonti.....	C
Owl .....	A
Ox .....	D
Oyster .....	C
Oyster Basket .....	D
Padlock .....	E
Painter at Work (house painter).....	C
Painter at Work (interior).....	D
Paint Pot and Brush.....	D
Painter's Palette .....	D
Paper Hanger at Work.....	F
Parlor Organ .....	D
Passenger Coach .....	E
Passenger Elevator .....	G
Patriotic Order Sons of America.....	C
Peacock .....	C
Pennsylvania Coat of Arms.....	C
Photographer at Camera.....	F
(See also Camera, etc.)	
Photographer Posing a Lady.....	E
Piano, upright, square or grand.....	C-D
Piano Player .....	E
Pick and Shovel.....	B
Pistol or Revolver.....	F
Plasterer at Work.....	D
Plasterer's Trowel and Hock.....	B

Plow .....	E
(See also Farmer Plowing, etc.)	
Plumber's Emblem (Furnace).....	C
Plumber Repairing Sink.....	D
Policeman in Uniform.....	F
Portable Engine .....	D
Porter Carrying Trunk.....	H
Power Printing Press.....	D
Printer at Case.....	E
Printer Setting Type (same as above).	
Printer's Composing Stick.....	C
Printer's Stick (in hand).....	D
Propeller .....	E
Rabbit (See Hare or Rabbit).	
Restaurant .....	G
Restaurant and Bar.....	G
Roller Skate .....	D
Rooster .....	B
Royal Arcanum .....	B
Royal Arch (Keystone).....	B
Royal League Emblem.....	B
Saddle .....	E
Saddle, fine .....	E
Saddler at Work.....	D
Saddler's Head, Knife and Hammer.....	C
Sailor, Cannon and Flag.....	F
Salesman Behind Counter.....	C

Saloon, Bartender and Customer, No. 1....	D
Saloon, Bartender and Four Customers, No. 2	E
Satchel .....	D
Sawmill .....	F
Schooner (Sailing) .....	F
Scotch Thistle. Semi-Occupational.....	A
Scroll Sawyer at Work.....	F
Scull Boat and Sculler.....	G
Sewing Machine .....	C
Sewing Machine and Lady.....	E
Sheaf of Wheat. Semi-Occupational.....	A
Sheep or Sheep's Head.....	B
Sheriff, Criminal and Jail.....	H
Shingles (Bunch) .....	D
Shirt and Collar.....	F
Shoemaker at Work.....	D
Shoe Only .....	C
(See also Boot, etc.)	
Shoe Store and Clerk.....	E
Shriner (See Mystic Shrine).	
Sign Painter at Work.....	E
Skull and Cross Bones.....	D
S. M. A. A. (Switchmen).....	B
Soldier and Flag.....	E
Sons of Herman Emblem.....	C
Sons of St. George.....	B
Sons of Temperance.....	C
Sons of Veterans.....	D
Sr. O. U. A. M. (American Mechanics)....	B
Stage Coach, Four or Six Horses.....	G

Stake Wagon, Two Horses and Driver.....	C
Star and Crescent.....	C
Stationary Engine (See Engine, Stationary).	
Stationery Store .....	F
Steam Hammer .....	E
Steam Passenger Boat.....	F
Steam Ship Sailing.....	F
Steel Hammer .....	B
Stone Cutter at Work.....	E
Stove (Kitchen or Oil Stove).....	C
Street Car, Horses, Driver and Conductor..	F
(See also Electric Street Car).	
Surveyor with Instrument.....	E
Surveyor's Transit .....	E
Switch Engine .....	E
(See also Locomotive, etc.)	
Tailor at Work.....	D
Tailor Behind Counter, Cutting.....	D
Tailor Holding Coat.....	E
Tailor Measuring Coat.....	E
Tailor's Shears .....	C
Tanner's Emblem .....	E
Telegraph Key .....	C
(Except see O. R. T. (Telegraphers)).	
Telegraph Key and Hand.....	D
Telegraph Operator .....	D
Telephone .....	D
Tiger .....	D
Tinner at Work.....	C



Tinner's Emblem, Shears and Soldering Iron	C
Tinner's Emblem, Shears, Iron, and Solder..	C
Tinsmith's Furnace and Iron.....	C
Tobacconist Store .....	F
Tool Grinder at Work.....	E
Tug Boat .....	G
Toy Store .....	H
T. P. A. (Traveler's Protective Association)	C
Trotting Horse and Wagon.....	C
Trowel and Hammer.....	B
Truck Wagon .....	D
Truck Wagon, Two Horses.....	C
Trunk .....	F
U. C. T. U. (United Commercial Travelers).	B
Umbrella (Open) .....	D
United Mine Workers of America.....	B
United States Coat of Arms.....	C
United States Flag.....	A
U. S. Flags (Crossed).....	B
U. O. S. W. M. Emblem.....	B
Violin and Bow.....	D
Violin Player .....	E

Wagon, One or Two Horses and Driver.. .	C
Watch and Chain.....	D
Watch and Eagle.....	D
Wheelwright .....	E
Wine or Whiskey Barrel.....	D
Windmill. Semi-Occupational .....	B
Window Glass Blower.....	H
Wood Turner at Work.....	E
W. O. W., Woodmen of the World (Leaf).	B
W. O. W. (Stump).....	B
Yacht Sailing .....	F
Yeoman .....	F

### **Supplementary Information:**

1. Occupational or Society Emblem Shaving Mug with name of famous or well known person—H.
2. Deduct two-thirds of the value of any mug in the above list the name on which has been effaced or the name on which has worn out entirely.
3. Make suitable reduction for any injuries to mug, bearing in mind that a mug with a sizeable crack has very little value. Most collectors insist on perfect or near-perfect mugs.
4. Deduct one-third of the value of any mug the design on which takes up the space such that no name of owner was contemplated, (see illustration).
5. Occupational Shaving Mugs with Firm name instead of name of owner should be valued slightly higher. These may be called "Industrial Occupational Shaving Mugs".
6. Shaving Mugs without design but having name of owner under which appears word(s) "Messenger", "Surgeon Dentist", etc. may be termed "Occupational By Courtesy". Their value varies between A and D according to the interest aroused in the buyer and according to the usual or unusual trade designation.

7. Photographic Occupational Shaving Mugs should be valued somewhat higher than ordinary occupational mugs. Simply use your judgment about this. But value the best photograph of a man at E.
8. Please bear in mind the fact that many designs were executed from a description, or copied from a photograph or sketch, etc. and may not be found in the alphabetical list because they are one-of-a-kind occupational shaving mugs. If trade represented is a common trade, classify between B and C. If unusual trade appears on the mug, compromise between D and E, going higher if the occasion demands it. If a profession such as Lawyer or Judge is depicted, consider mug in classification H. Professions, as a rule, are rarer than trades.



*Occupational Shaving Mugs Illustrating Trades.*

*Job Printer  
Telegrapher*

*Ice Man  
Tailor*



*Hatter  
Policeman*

*Druggist  
Bartender*



*Fireman  
Slaughterer or Butcher*

*Doctor or Druggist  
Bookbinder*



*Hotel Clerk*  
*Brewmaster*

*Notary*  
*Bookkeeper*





*Business and Professional Designs.*  
*Top Row: (L. to R.): Two Dentists,*  
*2nd Row: Judge, Executive,*  
*3rd Row: Soldier, Navy Captain,*



*Veterinarian, Photographer.*

*Paint Dealer, Bridge Builder.*

*Oil Driller, Civil War Drummer.*



*Railroad Mugs.*



*Railroad Mugs.*



*Railroad Mugs.*



*Railroad Mugs.*

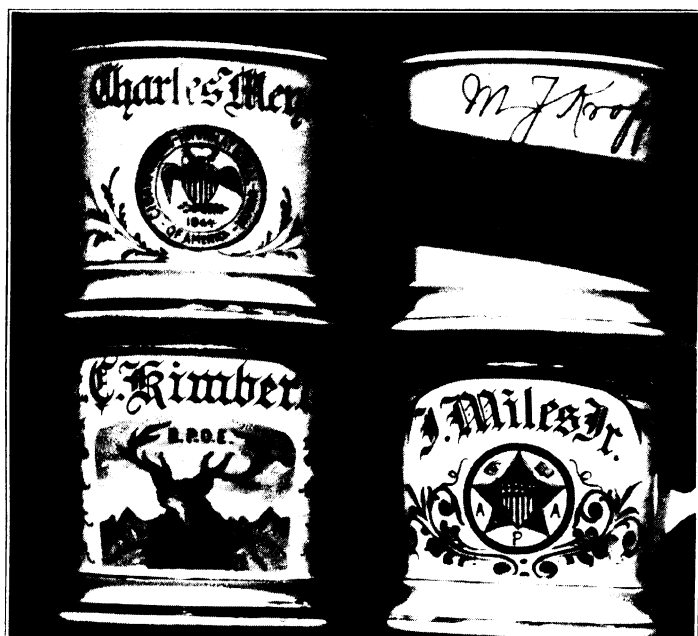


*Sports Designs.*



*Sports Designs*





*Society Emblems:*  
*Top Row: (L. to R.): Two Cigar Mak-*  
*ers' Union,*  
*2nd Row: B.P.O.E., A.P.A.*



*Ancient Order of  
Foresters.  
I. O. O. F.*

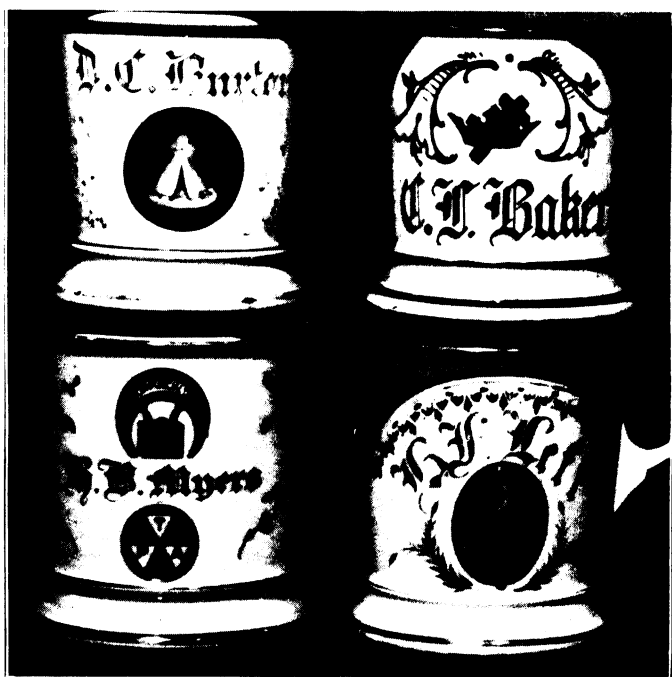
*Redmen's Encampment.  
Mystic Shrine.*



*Pennsylvania Coat of Arms, Patriotic  
Order Sons of America.*

*D. O. K. K.*

*O. U. A. M.*



*Top Row: Knights of Macabee, Knights Templars.*

*Bottom Row:*

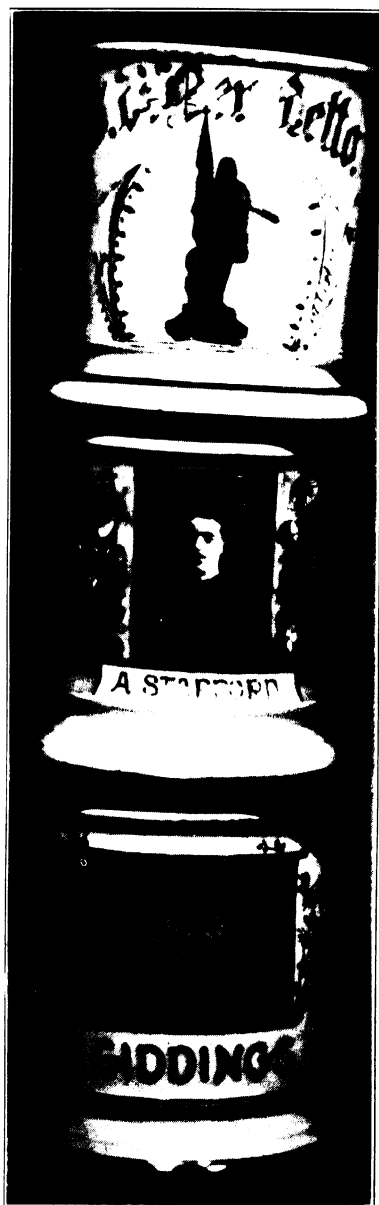
*Combination design, U. C. T. U.  
and T. P. A. (travellers).*

*Knights of Pythias.*



*Photographical Occupational Shaving Mugs.*

*Note: The left center mug shows design in color of oil derrick, rear of mug.*



*Photographical Occupational  
Shaving Mugs.*



*Coat of Arms and Eagle and  
Shield designs (Top Row).*

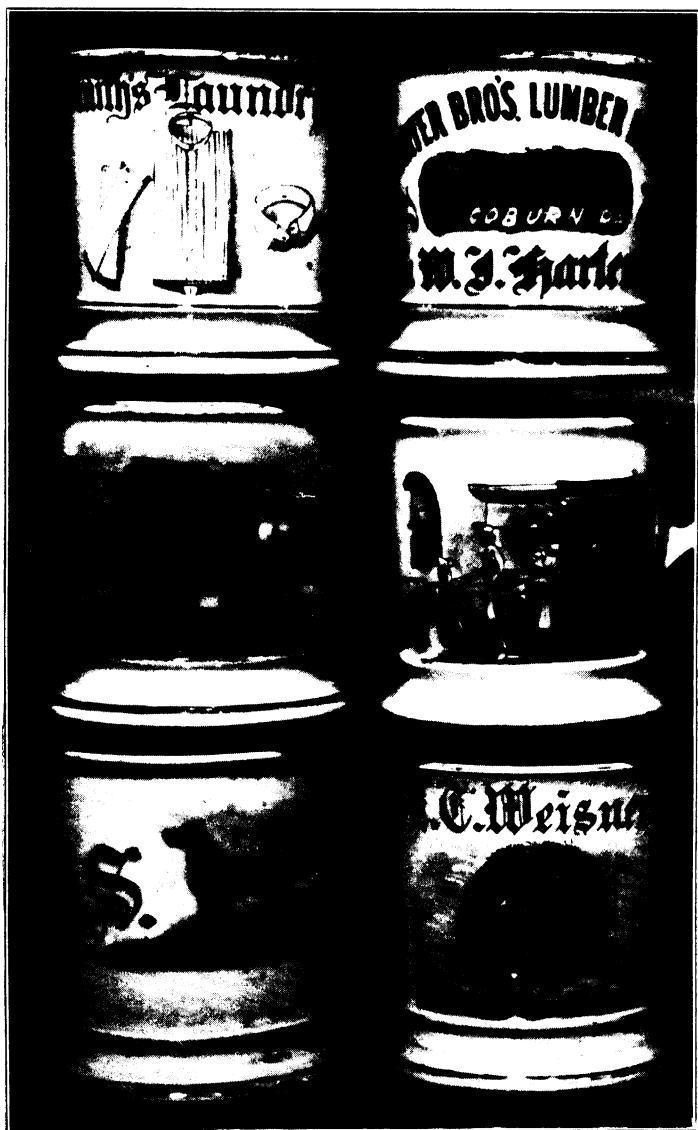
*Bottom: Undertaker Designs.*



*Top: Shield Designs*

*Bottom: Undertakers*





*Miscellaneous Occupational Shaving  
Mugs.*

*Top Row: (L. to R.): Two Industrial  
Mugs,*

*2nd Row: Two Without Names.*

*3rd Row: Designs of Dog, Peacock*



*Top: Two "Occupational By Courtesy" Mugs*

*Center: Two unfinished mugs.*

*Bottom: Fish, Trotting Horse.*



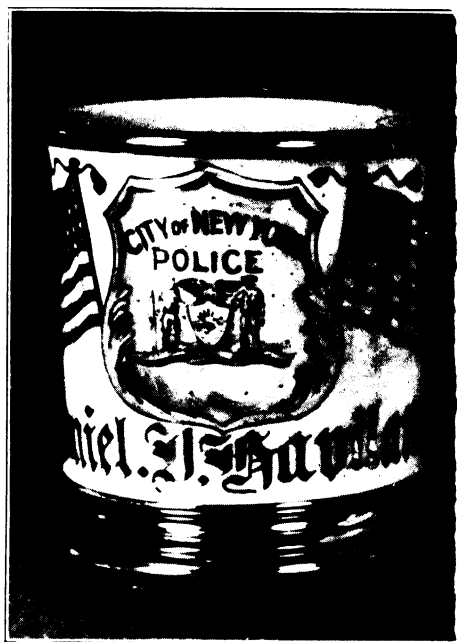
*Non-Occupational Shaving Mugs  
That May Deceive.*



*Non-Occupational  
Shaving Mugs That May Deceive.*



*Two "Fakes".*



*New York City Police.*



*The late Ex - Governor Charles  
Whitman of New York.  
New York Sun Vender.*

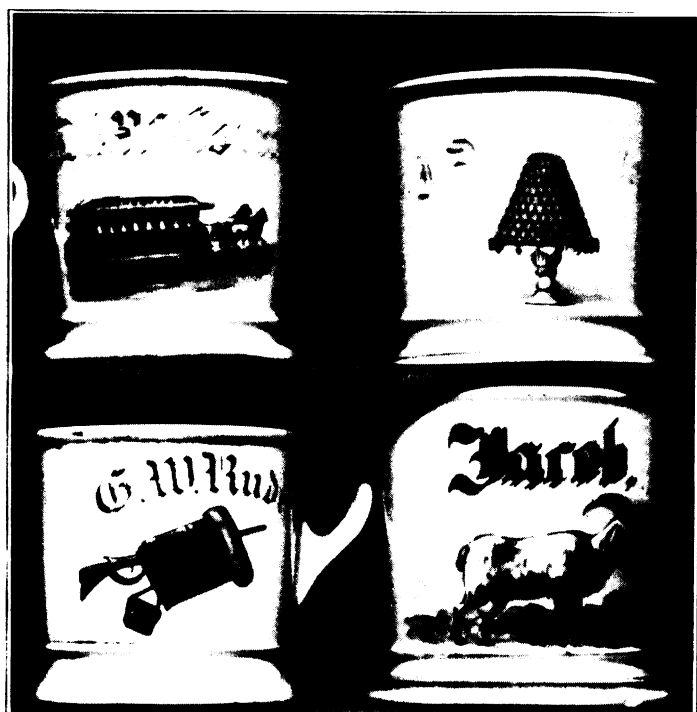


*Some Unusual Designs in Occupational Shaving Mugs.*

*Top Row: (L. to R.): Safe Builders, Groom.*

*2nd Row: Bride & Groom, Brick Moulder.*





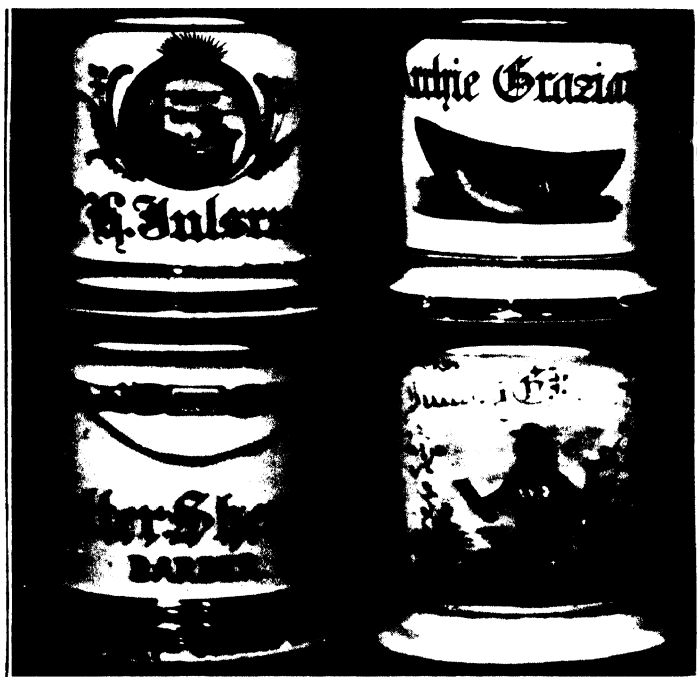
*Early Chicago Horse  
Car  
Gun & Knapsack*

*Confectioner's Pyramid  
Jacob Goetz' Mug ("The  
Old Goat")*



*Rope Maker, Policeman.*

*Steam Sailing Vessel,  
Hackensack (N. J.) Ferry.*



*Top Row: Jeweler, Watermelon Grower.*

*Bottom Row: Barber, New York Sun Vender*

## **LIST OF NON-OCCUPATIONAL SHAVING MUGS THAT MAY DECEIVE YOU**

Humorous Blacksmith scene framed by large horseshoe.

Racetrack scene: large Jockey seated to left side of miniature scene.

Racetrack scene: same as above except that Jockey is replaced by two small horses' heads framed by horseshoe.

Hunter shooting ducks from boat. Large dog in boat.

Crossed Ears of Corn.

Rabbit dressed like Magician, pulling something from a hat.

Comic design of minstrel man beating large base drum.

Three Frogs, smoking pipe, seated on giant pipe.

Frog fishing.

Frogs riding Highwheeler Bikes.

Fishes swimming with banner for name running diagonally across water.

Large Fan.

Girl on Pedestal blowing long trumpet from which hangs a banner.

Crossed peacock feathers.

Other but smaller peacock feathers as if in a bouquet.

Scene of Wrecked Sailing Vessel.

Pyramids and Sphinx.

House in distance, woodland scene, in circle.

Small Church with landscape and water scene.

Small sailboat on lake. (Several variations).

Large Purple Drape. Flowers at top.

Curtain or Drape suspended from gilt pole.

Antique column entwined by vines.

Flying Bird with ribbon in beak.

Rustic post, very large, with banner across it for name.

Basket of flowers and drapery.

Standing Woman (Trilby).

Horse's Head, large, bursting through paper screen.

Deer's Head in circle surrounded by flowers.  
Name across deer's throat.

Dog's Head, snipe or duck in mouth.

Fisherman near beached rowboat. One man holds fish.

Large fish, game, gun, tiny boat with fishermen in distance. Banner for name runs diagonally.

Two Horses' Heads. Except see "Order of Chosen Friends Emblem" in Occupational list, this one having two horses' heads with one head leaning on the other.

Hunting Dog framed by giant hunting horn.  
Rabbit emerges from horn.

Stone Bridge. Banner for name.

Name in scroll running across scene on artist's palette. See "Painter's Palette" for type that is occupational.

Old mill with mill wheel; miniature scene in circle.

Minstrel on Crescent (moon). Old barber supply catalogues describe as "Minstrel on Crescent—Mr. Johnson, Turn Me Loose!"



## SOME FACTS ABOUT OCCUPATIONAL SHAVING MUGS

It is well to remember five old timers among decorators of barber shop shaving mugs: Curt Grimm of St. Louis, J. R. Voldan of Cleveland, Ohio, R. F. Habel of New York City, H. Griebel of Chicago, and Ph. Eisemann in or near Philadelphia. The latter decorated entirely on blank mugs supplied in the United States, easily recognizable for their texture, being of semi-pottery or opaque ware. But most decorators, including the others named above, used imported blanks from France, England, Austria, Germany, and a limited number of other countries, but not including China or Japan.

Speaking of mug decorators, I would like to quote here from my article appearing in the April, 1942 issue of HOBBIES Magazine, concerning Curt Grimm:

"Mr. Grimm began his career of mug decorating in the year 1895, remaining at the St. Louis plant (of the Koken Companies) for 29 years. (A final year and a half was spent thereafter at the Oakland, California plant, in semi-retirement, in the department of toiletries and perfumery). There were eight other decorators with him whose full time was devoted to decorating shaving mugs and stand bottles for barbers. Their hours were from 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., there being a half hour for lunch.



“The rush season for these decorators came each year between September and Christmas. Hurry orders were frequent. The work was fun but hard on the eyes, according to Mr. Grimm.

“A prince of designers, Mr. Grimm spent the last nine years of his career alone with Koken. He covered the entire round of this work, painting, gilding, firing, etc. He was alone because the era of barber shop sanitation had arrived. There were fewer demands for old-style equipment, including shaving mugs.

“While the more unusual illustrations for occupational mugs were painted direct from a drawing, photograph, or description, engraved plates were made and kept on hand for the more popular designs. The making of these plates followed closely the method employed in the ‘wet point’ engraving of today. Wet points, of course, are done in reverse so that the imprint will be correct. Mug plates, however, were executed straight. The print appeared in reverse but as it was applied to the surface of mug it straightened itself out again. The design was a bare outline so that the designer could hand-paint the rest, following the contours of the outline. A great number of these prints, belonging to Curt Grimm, are on the table at this moment.

“An examination of this pile of tissue paper prints reveals that there were times when stenciling was used instead of prints. A waxy paper design of delivery wagon and horse shows this design to be made entirely of tiny ‘pin pricks’ or holes making up the outline of the horse and wagon.

“The decalcomania process was never used on occupational shaving mugs. The fact that they were hand painted makes them of infinite more value as keepsakes.

“Having covered designing, let us turn to mug firing. Mr. Grimm will describe it in his own words:

“‘After having painted about seventy mugs we put the names and the gold on. The mugs are now ready for the kiln. We put stilts (Y-shaped) made of fire clay between the mugs to keep them from firing together. Then a cone was put in the kiln, in front, so you can see it from outside. The cone is tempered at about 1800°. Then the door is closed and a slow fire started. After about an hour we turn on full speed. Now the kiln has to be watched. As soon as the top of the cone begins to turn, turn off the gas and the kiln is done. We have to leave it cool off overnight.’ . . . .

“Once a man put in an order for a crawling caterpillar illustration. Mr. Grimm thinks the joke was on him when the mug came back, for the man requested him to scrap it and make him a caterpillar tractor mug instead of a crawling caterpillar.

“Sometimes photograph mugs were ordered, the likeness of owner (or the likeness of some cherished scene) being reproduced photographically on a shaving mug.”

Curt Grimm died in October, 1943 in St. Louis. J. R. Voldan died in Czechoslovakia, it is believed, in 1939.

The following quotation from the E. H. Kuster Company in the 1890's sheds light on the photograph mug: "Photographs on shaving mugs are burnt right into the enamel of the mug itself. A gold frame around the photo nicely decorated with sprays of flowers enhances the appearance. A mug of this kind will be highly prized in future years. Any picture or design, machinery, locomotive, building of any kind photographed right on the mug and burnt to last. Price \$2.00 (to barbers)."

After the McKinley tariff of 1891, blank mugs had to bear marking underneath to show country of origin.

In the decoration of a shaving mug, the use of "Burnish" gold was far superior to the often used "Bright" gold. This better quality of gold accounts for the fact that many early designs show less wear of the name or border design (of gold) than do certain shaving mugs decorated years afterwards.

The span of life for individually decorated barber shop shaving mugs, including occupational and society emblem mugs, is a period of fifty years or more, from 1870 through the early 1920's, with a few die-hard decorating companies working up to about 1930.\* The decorated shaving mug was edged off the scene slowly but surely by the advent of the safety razor in 1903, followed by Sunday cerfew on barber shop openings, and a rapidly increased cost of shaves over the old ten-cent shave of the turn of the century. Moreover, the old customer began to rove with new highways until his son shaved himself entirely from training habit during the first World War. Sanitary gadgets were thought up by health authorities who frowned on the kept shaving mug. All of these reasons add up and, like the many small darts thrown in a bullfight, end by killing off the thing.

The general procedure in ordering shaving mugs for barber shop use was the placing of the order through one's local barber. The barber retained for reference a barber supply catalogue with all kinds of barbering equipment described and illustrated, which included a fine shaving mug section. Likely, some of the mug illustrations were in color (lithograph) with a long list of shaving mugs entitled "Decorated Shaving Mugs—Trade Designs, Lodge, Society and all Other Emblems". There was also another list of non-occupational mugs: names and scenes,

names and florals, numerals, etc. About fifty years ago, the barber paid from 75c to \$2.25 for the finished product in a shaving mug of the occupational variety, charging the customer whatever profit he cared to make on the deal. Occasionally, a steady customer was given the mug as a present from his barber.

Decorators frequently garbled the names on shaving mugs as a result of these names being relayed from customer to barber to decorating company.

An order for a mug was executed on the medium sized blank unless small or large sized mug was requested.

Barber supply companies mailed out mug sheets, poster size, to barbers as supplements when catalogues became slightly outdated. These sheets illustrated occupational designs with a numeral under each design so that the barber could consult his corresponding price list without the customer knowing the amount paid by the barber for the mug.

\* Not all mugs were decorated by barber supply companies. A good number of china decorating companies entered the field



*Deep Sea Diver.*



## LIST OF SHAVING MUG COLLECTORS, PAST AND PRESENT, WHOSE COLLECTIONS INCLUDE OCCUPATIONAL SHAVING MUGS.

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*You may add your own names from time to  
time, as you hear of new collectors,  
using space at end of this list.*

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### ARONSON, IRVING: New York.

Here is a pioneer collector who sold his collection several years ago. I spent most of an afternoon in his apartment in Brooklyn looking over his mugs. He owned the rare doctor and patient occupational (bedside scene) besides a design of early steam propelled fire-engine. There were some other fine mugs too. Mr. Aronson's business took him over New England at intervals. Whenever he had spare time he would visit local barber shops and pick up fine mugs here and there for fifty cents or a dollar. I need hardly say "them days is gone forever."

### BELKNAP, MR. AND MRS. E. McCAMBY: Ohio.

This popular couple entertain each year on New Year's Eve with Mrs. Belknap's old time Georgia egg-nog recipe. She brought this secret formula with her from the windy mansion section of East Georgia. The guests choose their containers from a large array of old mustache cups and occupational shaving mugs. Some of the guests use the same mug from year to year. The party is given in two sections—early afternoon guests and late afternoon guests.

### BENNER, PAUL: Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Benner stopped by to see my collection a few years ago. They had just picked up down the line an occupational mug showing plumber at sink. Some dealer who needs this book had sold it for 75c.

### BENSON, BERNHARD: New York.

Collects all types of old shaving mugs.

### BILL'S GAY NINETIES (Bill Hardey, Prop.): N. Y.

A museum-night club containing the original bar of the old Holland House, historical theatre programs, old shaving mugs including one of Teddy Roosevelt, etc. Mr. Hardey showed me over the place and allowed me to browse among his occupational mugs.

### BULL, L. P.: Illinois.

A friendly collector who enjoys swapping and acquiring new mugs.

### BURNE, S. BURDETTE: New York.

An avid collector of all types of shaving mugs.



**CARROLL, CHARLES E.:** New York.

The Carroll collection of shaving mugs was sold in 1942 by Parke-Bernet Galleries, New York City. I attended this sale, sitting next to the late A. N. Lincoln who used to collect and sell shaving mugs, barber bottles, old keys, early tools, etc. Mr. Carroll was one of the first serious collectors of old shaving mugs. I had a pleasant visit with his family in New York.

**CORY, JOHN A.:** New York.

A beginner in this line, Mr. Cory would like to hear from parties who wish to sell occupational shaving mugs.

**DAVEGA, HARRY S.:** New York.

Owner of fine restaurants in New York and Connecticut. Spends some of his playing time collecting occupational shaving mugs. A serious man who has not lost the common touch.

**DE ZEMLER, CHARLES:** New York.

The world's premier collector of barberiana. He collects such items as early barber-surgeon tools, barber bowls, shaving mugs, rare old barber chairs, and in fact anything fine and interesting in the hirsute line. Although very busy, he will take time off to welcome a serious collector and he will point with pride to the pieces with which he has decorated his several barber shops. These shops are for the discriminating client with an expensive suit. You and I can always shake his hand and trail off around the corner. Have you ever read Mr. De Zemler's book, "Once Over Lightly"? It is out of print but if you will write him direct perhaps he will scrape the barrel for a copy. It is all about early barbering.

**DIX, EVERETT:** Pennsylvania.

Collector of occupational mugs, ancient velocipedes, and other things. Mr. Dix can turn a mean hand to taxidermy too.

**DOTY, MRS. BESSIE T.:** Illinois.

This lady used to collect occupational shaving mugs for her son in the Navy. I hope he has returned safely by now and that he is able to shift for himself. After all, it is something of a strain to collect, or have you noticed? Lots of fun too. Express is high and if you send parcel post a heavy man seems to sit on each package.

**DURHAM, FRED S.:** Pennsylvania.

Although a recent collector, Mr. Durham has assembled some very fine occupational mugs according to the photographs he sent me. His collection is shaping up to rank among the best. He is a fair minded man, unselfish, and probably in comfortable circumstances since he can be reached without a street address.

**ELEHERT, ALBIN A.:** Ohio.

Seems to have a good number of occupational shaving mugs in a barber rack in his home.

**FARBER, R. A.:** Pennsylvania.

A collector who has a boyish enthusiasm for adding new mugs to his collection.

### FRANCIS, PAYSON: Connecticut.

Collector of railroadiana and railroad china. Mr. Francis has some splendid mugs with designs of locomotives, cabooses, cars, etc. If he dies before I do I hope he leaves me that mug with design of San Francisco cable trolley. You should become acquainted with Mr. Francis. He keeps his collector friends informed of the antiques shows up that way and he is in the habit of mailing copies of his correspondence to other collectors. A surprisingly thoughtful collector and friend.

### FRANKEL, ANSELM, JR.: Massachusetts.

Mr. and Mrs. Frankel passed through Sewanee last winter. I was living at the time in the house of my parents. The house was big and warm except for the room containing the shaving mugs. It had no register and was cold as ice. We passed around some drinks and kept on our coa's. Anyway, I think they enjoyed it. We tried to make them stay overnight but they must have thought we meant in that cold room. Too bad. This couple lives a well balanced life with antiques, shaving mugs, and a certain amount of car travel.

### FROHMAN, DR. I. PHILLIPS: Washington, D. C.

*The Washington Evening Star* of July 9, 1948 ran a few columns on Dr. Frohman's collection of occupational shaving mugs which "provide an interesting hobby and an attractive and colorful corner unit in the bedroom of his Colonial rambling house." Boy, I can't say it like that! A picture shows the good doctor in front of his barber rack holding out a mug just the way all photographers make us collectors do.

### GOURIELLI, PRINCESS (Helena Rubinstein) : N. Y.

This lady executive seems to have a bit of everything in the collecting line. I have a newspaper clipping showing some occupational shaving mugs which she exhibited in her place of business. Under the picture were the words, "Shaving mugs of the taxi driver, ball player, iceman, baker, butcher (this is dated 1914), and shoe clerk from Princess Gourielli's collection, on view at Helena Rubinstein's."

### HANDELSMAN, BURTON: New York.

A collector who has been advertising for occupational shaving mugs.

### HARLOW, J. W.: New York.

According to advice from him, he has a good collection of occupational mugs.

### HEFFNER, EDWARD C.: Pennsylvania.

He and a dealer up that way have been disposing of his collection.

### HENRY, WALTER: Pennsylvania.

Collector of mechanical banks, old toys, occupational shaving mugs, etc.

## **HOBBIES MAGAZINE: Chicago.**

In keeping with his usual thoroughness along collecting lines, Mr. O. C. Lightner has assembled a well rounded collection of occupational shaving mugs now housed in the Lightner Museum in St. Augustine, Florida. I saw this collection once in Chicago although Mr. Lightner was absent at the time. I get a thrill always out of seeing another collection and this one surely did not let me down. Some pictures of these mugs were carried in the write-up by the *Saturday Evening Post* of September 16, 1944.

## **HOPKINS, DR. STEPHEN N.: New York.**

An enthusiastic collector of all types of old shaving mugs. If you like your patent dated shaving mugs as well as your occupationals, get out that old typewriter and tell him about it.

## **HUGHES, GEORGE M.: Pennsylvania.**

Collected occupational shaving mugs but disposed of most of them in recent months.

## **HURD, S. V.: California.**

Here is a patient and considerate collector who is not too interested in fraternal mugs but who is anxious to add some good occupational mugs to his collection. He began collecting in New York City, moving west to California. On the way, his trailer broke down and he smashed two occupationals in the accident. He shook off his dismay and started out with renewed interest.

## **KNEELAND, RUTH: Oregon.**

This lady collects all types of shaving mugs. I could kick myself because I passed through Eugene in July, 1947 but did not run out to the country to see her. My family and I had lunch there and we thought all the men in town were a bit daffy until we heard they were growing beards for the great Oregon centennial parade.

## **KNIGHT, MRS. HAROLD G.: Pennsylvania.**

At a meeting of the Countryside Questers in the home of Mrs. W. George Bardens (president), Fort Washington, Pennsylvania, on January 7, 1948, Mrs. Knight gave a talk on shaving mugs as reported in the *New York Sun* of January 30. I had been in correspondence with this lady and I was looking forward to hearing about the talk. However, the newspaper account was formal and there was no report on the reaction of the ladies to the subject of old shaving mugs. I feel sure she put it over in a big way.

## **LERNER, SAMUEL A.: California.**

Mr. Lerner lets no grass grow under his feet when it comes to locating new designs in occupational shaving mugs. I am told that he gets a kick out of a new addition about like that of a kid with a new train. He is right. If you don't enjoy it, better leave it alone.

## **LIGUORI, A.: Rhode Island.**

Recent advertiser for occupational shaving mugs. Probably starting a collection.

**LILLARD, W. P.: New York.**

Interested in all types. Unless his enthusiasm is on the wane, for I have not heard from him for a long while, he is still in there fighting.

**LYNCH, HARRY W.: Delaware.**

This gentleman collected ~~old~~ shaving mugs until he decided to sell his collection. I bought a barrel filled with old shaving mugs from him at one time. He is a generous person and considerate of others for when I was in touch with him I was about to leave for the Pacific and through his courtesy I was able to consummate the purchase during difficult days.

**McSORLEY'S OLD ALE HOUSE: New York.**

Mr. Harry Kirwan, husband of the owner, and manager of this establishment, keeps a few occupational mugs in this old ale house which is a relic museum, notably the mug of the late James J. Corbett, whose name appears above a scene of boxing. I had a fine talk with Mr. Kirwan while balancing a mug of ale in one hand and gesticulating with the other hand. But in the middle of our discussion his young daughter rushed in wearing her snowsuit and persuaded her father to leave on the spot. She gave me a pretty brush-off but all papas are powerless in the clutches of their young daughters. I have one myself.

**NOYES, HENRIETTE T.: (Address unknown).**

This lady wrote a story about occupational shaving mugs but when I addressed her in care of the publication she failed to reply. I could have inquired of the magazine and found the address but I like to give a lady the chance of anonymity as a collector, unless she throws open wide the door.

**O'KELLEY, DR.: Florida.**

He and Mrs. O'Kelley are born collectors. Their home is arranged in good taste with various collectors' items, principally colored glass, fine china, old steins, and last but not least the fine array of mechanical banks and occupational shaving mugs in Dr. O'Kelley's den. My visit there of about thirty minutes was far too short but I had to drive on into Georgia.

**ORTS, RAYMOND H.: New York.**

Here is a good natured collector who enjoys hearing from other collectors. Not that most of the others don't, but I am simply stating the fact. Drop him a line. He collects all types.

**PARKER, MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM C.: N. C.**

This couple saw the page about me in *People and Places* (DeSoto-Plymouth trade magazine). They wrote me about how they liked old shaving mugs of all kinds. Very interested. They collect. Mr. Parker is a "coal-scuttle" shaving mug fiend.

**PASTORE, JOHN: Massachusetts.**

*The Boston Herald* of March 10, 1946 showed a picture of old time barber, John Pastore, in front of his shaving mugs with this caption: "Gone are the days of the shaving mugs, but to John Pastore, forty-five years a Boston barber, his collection brings back memories of old friends and old times."

**PATTERSON, FRED: Georgia.**

Interested particularly in undertakers' mugs, following his calling, but has advertised for other occupational mugs also. I am told that his home contains some fine antiques purchased in Europe by him or by Mrs. Patterson.

**PHELPS, DWIGHT G.: Connecticut.**

A deserving collector who is interested in many types.

**RAESE, MRS. RICHARD A.: West Virginia.**

A good friend of mine here in town is intimately acquainted with this lady, these two ladies having attended school together. Mrs. Raese leads a full life. She has just finished a new home, given birth to a baby, yet never missed a trick in acquiring occupational shaving mugs during that time.

**RANDALL, E. L.; Nebraska.**

His collection is more or less static, but he keeps stored a fine occupational collection.

**ROBINSON, THOMAS M., JR.: California.**

Interested in occupational shaving mugs and perhaps in other types. Likes to keep up with what is happening to other collectors. You can't make out his name at the bottom of the letter, but he types them anyway. Apparently, "a gentleman and a scholar."

**ROEDEL, FREDERIC W.: New York.**

Used to collect shaving mugs containing the names and occupations of old time New Yorkers. Retired past President of the New York State Retail Jewelers' Association.

**ROLLINS, LLOYD L.: New York.**

Owns two old barber mug racks full of occupational mugs which he keeps in his bathroom.

**ROSS, CARL: Kansas.**

One of Mr. Ross' favorite occupationals shows a large potato and below owner's name are the words, "Potato Specialist". Well, that's the fun of collecting old barber mugs with trades, you just never know what you may come across. Every collection of size contains one or more such mugs that are absolutely distinctive. That is why there is no such thing as a complete list of all occupational shaving mugs. If a collector were to make an inventory of all the exceptions or one-of-a-kind occupational designs in collections throughout the country, his list would not contain those mugs that may have been broken over the years or that were thrown into the discard by barbers who did not have the imagination to keep them for the future.

**ROSS, JOSEPH D., JR.: North Carolina.**

Mr. Ross' shaving mug collection was written up in the August, 1947 *Rotarian* magazine. The photograph therein shows a representative collection of all types. He started out with the mug of his father.

### SASSCIER, MRS. AGNES L.: Illinois.

Folks, here is a lady who is really versatile. She has written articles for national magazines dealing with the subject of "various and sundry" antiques. She and I have a bond in common for each of us had a long story about shaving mugs appearing in *The American Home* magazine during the past ten years. She keeps a small army of shaving mugs about the house which amuse her husband.

### SCHANTZ, E. F.: Ohio.

One of the pioneer collectors of shaving mugs, Mr. Schantz has branched out in late years to other interests. But he keeps on hand a few shaving mugs for display. If you ever need a Church organ better get it from him because he makes those big boys that do the heavy duty humming.

### STAIGER, Charles: New York.

A particular friend of Mr. De Zemler (the barberiana collector of New York). Although Mr. Staiger collects a great number of things and owns probably the best Currier & Ives comics in the country, he likes the barber shop shaving mugs which he keeps in a rack. Mr. Staiger bought an old barn in Scarsdale, New York which he fixed up to house most of his antiques and collectors' items. He says, "My collection of shaving mugs is right over the stairway leading to the floor above and everyone sees them and remarks how interesting they are".

### SWENSEID, H. A.: California.

He keeps various barber shop mugs. I am looking at his picture right now which came to me as a newspaper clipping along with a column or two about his collection. A girl reporter, Wilma Rule, is shown with him and the mugs. Any time she wants to interview me too tell the *Valley Times* to send her out. That hair-do is classy.

### SWIGART, W. Emmert: Pennsylvania.

He has a wonderful collection of old fire markers and he has written a splendid article on the subject in pamphlet form (illustrated). I list him here because he has some occupational shaving mugs besides. If I recall correctly, he likes transportation designs such as those of railroad equipment and automobiles.

### TAYLOR, MR. and MRS. L. BRADLEY: Maryland.

This couple had a collection containing barber mugs, patent dated mugs, and most any type of shaving mug. They were interested in my one hundred copies of patents granted for shaving mugs between the years 1860 and present times, and I believe they dug around a bit and collected some of these patents. Also some occupational mugs. But life is fickle and they decided to sell the collection. I don't know how far they went with the idea.

**THOMAS, FRANK H. and  
McCLURE, JOSEPH B.:** Mass.

I hope these two fine old men are still flourishing. They have a sort of barber shop museum in which they keep the shaving mugs of their old time customers. They have outlived more than 130 of the former owners of these mugs. "These men have operated the Milford, Massachusetts shop for 56 years without a cross word or thought of splitting up", according to a newspaper account.

**VAIL, R. W. G.:** New York.

I am looking forward to meeting this man some time when I am up Gotham way. Mr. Vail is Director of the New York Historical Society. Somebody gave a rack of occupational mugs to the Society and I got hot on the trail until I learned they were not for sale. But Mr. Vail can say "no" in a way that sounds like icing on an angel cake. More power to him!

**VAN DUSEN, L. B. (Address unknown).**

In one of my old barber catalogues I found a clipping from an unnamed newspaper showing this gentleman in front of a fine rack display of occupational mugs. The wording runs as follows: "All that is missing here is a *Police Gazette*. L. B. Van Dusen poses in an old barber chair with metal 'silk toppler' cuspidor and old shaving mugs at Fourth Annual Collectors' show in New York. Note the upholstered wooden chair. In the windows may be seen two small barber poles. And, of course, there's a banjo for that old quartet".

**VATH, HERMANN, S.:** California.

*The San Francisco Examiner* carried an account of Mr. Vath's shaving mug collection a few months back. Mr. Vath sent me some snapshots himself. He collects all types. They look pretty good to me.

**WALDEN, ALFRED S.:** New York.

A recent collector in the field of mugdom. He is interested in mugs with trades or fraternal emblems.

**WERDEN, LELAND G.:** Pennsylvania.

Occupational mug collector.

**WIZARD BARBER SUPPLY CO.:** Iowa.

Apparently, this company displays the occupational mugs collected in its own windows. Anyway, they collect them.

**YOUTZ, CLYDE:** Pennsylvania.

Collects and retains certain occupational designs. He sells those that are either duplicates or that do not hold his interest.

**THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE PRINTED FOR  
THE CONVENIENCE OF COLLECTORS AND  
ANTIQUES DEALERS IN MAKING THEIR  
PRIVATE ENTRIES OF COLLECT-  
ORS' NAMES AND ADDRESSES**



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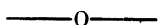
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## SOME PERSONAL EXPERIENCES IN COLLECTING



I had intended leaving myself out of this book entirely when the publisher suggested that I say something about my experiences as a collector. His letter arrived before lunch and while I was eating salad my wife caught me in an expression she knew meant I was thinking over something. She said, "What's that unconscious look on your face?" I replied that I was wondering if anybody who read my book would care a hoot about my experiences in collecting old shaving mugs, particularly the barber shop type. She thought they would and she persuaded me to go ahead. By the time we were eating dessert, which was good, my grumbling became faint and I agreed to the idea.

There are about three ways of collecting something like old shaving mugs. The first requires that you have spare money and thus that you are in position to wait around to buy up one or more good collections ready made. Then you may add to your acquisitions from time to time by securing a few rare mugs as they come to your attention. Anyone with a little spare cash who wears a dead pan expression while collecting shaving mugs is probably a person who subscribes to this method. He is not

too interested in hearing of a few mugs here and there. He never places an Ad. in a collector's magazine. But he has mugs all over the place.

The second way lies in watching for one or more mugs at a time and repeating your purchase often enough so that in the space of a few years you may have a fine kettle of fish. The poverty stricken reader of these lines who was hoping for a complimentary copy of this book will find a common bond with me in this plan.

Yet a third way is the manner in which I chose to collect after becoming a post graduate member of number two. All you do is build up your collection gradually, stirring up a little publicity about the mugs as you progress. The local newspaper may carry something about the mug collection and from there it is not difficult to work up to the Rotarian Magazine (if you are a member) or to some of the trades magazines that go in for pictorial news about collectors and hobbies, such as FRIENDS (Chevrolet) and PEOPLE AND PLACES (DeSoto-Plymouth). It is possible to fix up a sketch or story on sports mugs and place it with one of the several magazines dealing along these lines. At least one photograph should accompany each story. Some of the magazines that have handled my shaving mug material, written especially to fit each case, are FIELD & STREAM, RAILROAD MAGAZINE, THE BARBER'S JOURNAL, NATURE MAGAZINE, THE NEW YORK SUN (Friday section), THE AMERICAN HOME MAGAZINE, THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN (Sunday magazine section),

THE WESTERN HORSEMAN, THE ATLANTA JOURNAL, and several collectors' magazines. You and I, reader, are probably equally poor writers. But I would say to you that if you wish to write about your mug collection, or perhaps any collection, you must dig down and get at the facts. Editors like something **new** and **good**. Don't hand them any of that grandmother stuff who used to ladle out ice-cream and cookies from her old rocking chair. Everybody had a grandmother like that. Avoid putting in too many personal things in your story. For example, I should have left out of this book what I have written about myself.

After I had reached the phase of collecting that placed me somewhere along the lines of the above paragraph, Paramount Pictures decided to make a movie color short, to include my collection, in 1943. This gave me fine publicity and it startled at least three of my friends in far away cities who went to the movie house purely for amusement but found me in one of the shorts.

Meanwhile, I had been placing advertisements from time to time in collectors' magazines. I discovered the fine pulling power of HOBBIES magazine of Chicago so I decided to carry a regular advertisement with them month after month, using a photograph with it. These advertisements can be paid for out of the writings about mugs.

Once, I decided to consult the Library of Congress for information on old shaving mugs.

I wrote to Mr. Robert C. Gooch, Chief of General Reference and Bibliography Division, because we had a mutual friend and because he seemed well buried in all the material in that part of the building. It might have worked out all right if I had approached him cold since he is a very obliging gentleman. He allowed me to browse through half a mile of subterranean tunnels (I still wore my uniform then and while the attendants were figuring out the ribbons, I could have free run of the place). I got lost among some books on the laundry process but fairly close to them I ran across the barber supply company catalogues and kindred material. Even Mr. Gooch did not realize what was there since he had not mentioned some of the things I found in his correspondence with me.

Although I was interested in what Library of Congress had to offer in the way of reference, I decided that a collector could do better by himself if he attempted to find some old catalogues on his own. I had a large collection of them at the time of my visit to Library of Congress. In fact, the box containing them was hard to lift. Later on, I disposed of the duplicates to barber bottle and shaving mug collectors but all the while I kept my eyes open for additions. Those of you who bought these duplicates received some bargains because the main reason I owned that many was the fact that one old barber supply company sold out the whole contents of its factory. I have written to others still in existence but with little success. Incidentally, if you ever visit the Library of

Congress while driving through Washington with your family, better make some plans for them because they won't relish the idea. You can send them to Georgetown on a trolley, if they like antiques shops, or you can drop them in the Government buildings or museums. By promising them a grand lunch at noon, they will agree to meet you later on.

One thing that gave me a real boost in collecting was the assignment by Encyclopaedia Britannica to write up the history of shaving mugs of all kinds for their latest edition. The final proof was forwarded to me on Okinawa during the third day of a heavy rain. All of us were walking about with hunks of mud dangling from our G. I. shoes. One of the fellows asked me "What's dat youse got dere, buddy?"

I had always planned to exhibit my collection in one of the large city department stores some of which had written me letters of inquiry for displays on Father's Day, the Fourth of July, or Christmas. But whenever I weighed the labor of shipping the collection, or the cost of hauling the mugs up there in person, I found the idea to be impractical. If you live in or near a large city I should think an exhibit would be a very good thing for you. The pioneer mug man, Charles E. Carroll of New York, exhibited his collection in many cities but he had the kind of personality to swing it which most of us lack, including myself. He had "mug courage". This is the quality of mind that is willing to take a risk when a heavy crate or two containing one hundred and fifty mugs is handled by an Ex-

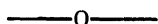


pressman with a heavy hand and the notion that Christmas is passing him by.

Occasionally, someone will want to know my philosophy of collecting. What they mean is, "Brother, how many people have you gypped in the course of your rounds?" I wish to make it clear now that I do not subscribe to the idea that a collector should creep through antiques shops with old clothes and attempt to wheedle rarities out of poor widow ladies with a heavy tear supply back of their eyes. True, if I saw a fine mug with a two dollar label pasted to it and knew it was worth much more, I would make off with it in a hurry and mumble something about the weather. But if the dealer came up to me and, with nervous breaks in her voice, said, "Mr. Ware, I recognize you beneath that wind-breaker and whiskey distilling hat, how rare is this mug I'm holding on to?" then I must say that I would tell her the facts with heavy heart and either pay the price or leave the shop empty handed. You have to remember that a good name over the course of years means more to you than a few dollars. This philosophy of collecting would hold true whether you were searching for shaving mugs, grandfather clocks, or Korean bus tokens. Look for "sleepers" all you want, but remember to draw the line where fair play will blossom. Some day one dealer will say to another, "That guy Ware is not such a bad sort. Write him and ask him what it's worth!" This means that you have a shot at buying something that has passed by the other fellow. It is worth thinking about.

# CHARLIE ACKERLAND

## *Famous Old Timer*



The San Francisco Examiner of June 27, 1947 gives an account of Ackerland's Old Palace Hotel Barber Shop in these words: "The Palace tonsorial parlor is more than just a place to get the hair and whiskers cut. It's a sort of club, a rendezvous, a sanctuary. Some of San Francisco's most distinguished citizens visit there more regularly than they do their clubs. In fact, it has most of the advantages possessed by the Pacific Union Club without the high dues, or the mice that are said to infest the place.

"The barbers there have no understanding of the word 'subservient'. There is no apple-polishing, no 'yes sir, no sir' routine. They deal with their customers as if they were old professional acquaintances, as indeed they are. And they exude mild but obvious disapproval of the few interlopers who stray into the place. Parvenues! Pfuey!

"The establishment reeks with history as well as hair tonic. Both in its present and its pre-fire manifestation it has served innumerable celebrities. Real celebrities, not the kind that are introduced in night clubs 'to a hearty round of applause, please!' Sir Henry Irving, for instance, and James J. Corbett, when he was every San Franciscan's idol. Lord Talbot Clifton, who made White Hat McCarthy famous,

John Drew, Ned Greenway, John L. Sullivan, Jim Jeffries, 'Battling' Nelson, Colonel Phil Chinn of Kentucky Derby fame and many, many others.

"Probably the shop's most famous customer was King Kalakaua, the last monarch of Hawaii. The King walked into the place with four native girls. Their chore: to fan him with woven nipa fans whilst he was being shaved. True!

"The original owner of the shop was Bernard Bernhard, who opened it in 1877, after having been in the same business for many years in the old Russ house. George, his son, inherited the place and ran it until he died, when the shop was willed to two veteran employees, Cashier Hazel Bradford and Manager Charlie Ackerland, who have been its operators ever since . . . ."

And so, I dedicate this little book to a true old timer who knows his mugs —

CHARLIE ACKERLAND







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